

# STORIES From the BIG CITIES

## Fantastic Initiation of New York College Boy

NEW YORK.—There is an elm tree on Seventh avenue near the corner of One Hundred and Twenty-eighth street. Around the elm tree is a puddle. In some places the puddle may be six inches deep. Oblivious of snow, sleet and rain, a chubby youth sat by that puddle on a recent morning fishing. His feet were clad in large shoes in a state of partial decay. His eyes were obscured by a tattered brown hat and his shirt was red. He had no collar, but eleven yards of bright red ribbon were wound about his neck. At his right was an alarm clock; at his left one of those unhygienic vessels which adorn the lobbies of cheap hotels. Ever and anon he gazed anxiously at the alarm clock, and when it struck the hour of five he arose and went to the door. He was there for a moment, looking out at the street, when he was startled by a loud knock. He opened the door and a patrolman stood before him. "What are you doing?" asked the patrolman. "The chubby youth was silent."

"What's your name?" "Still the sphinxlike silence." "Come along with us then, and we'll soon show you what you're doing." He was George Edward Peppis, eighteen, a sophomore in the College of the City of New York. At eight o'clock in the morning he had reported, as per instructions, at the chapter house of the Tau Delta Phi fraternity. There he had been dressed up, bundled into an automobile and taken to Seventh avenue, where he had been left with instructions not to stir or speak until the boys came back for him. He was also instructed to violate the municipal health ordinance every five minutes. "What kind of a stunt do you call that?" asked the lieutenant. "Getting initiated," replied. "Sure, I call it disorderly conduct," said the lieutenant.

## Minneapolis Chinaman Makes Midnight Music

MINNEAPOLIS.—Charley Wing is a Chinese who loves music. He loves it so much he stays up nights to play his two-string fiddle. He also owns a laundry. Like a thrifty Chinese, he does not allow his music to interfere with his business, but the neighborhood knows. And very frequenter of Franklin avenue and Fifteenth street at midnight and the wee hours of the morning also knows.

When the wash is on the line Charley plays.

To save light he usually sits in front of the laundry's big plate-glass window, which faces the strong arc light on the Bloomington transfer point. So the late travelers also know. From midnight to 2 a. m. are his favorite practicing hours. Ordinarily it is the violin, but on special occasions Charley has a weird oriental makeshift made of bamboo and bits of snakeskin, and called in Chinese parlance the "geeyzin," which he plays.

Charley's music is of the low, haunting kind and little disturbs the night, but close neighbors who enjoy the full force of the serenade have come to recognize the shrieking sounds wherein the Chinese finds his music, and are said to have remonstrated loudly at the new school of music.

## Philadelphia Church Is Built of Grindstones

PHILADELPHIA.—The dedication of Tacony Baptist church, Diaston and Hagerman streets, marked the completion of the only church edifice in the world built of worn-out grindstones and finished a chapter of self-sacrifice on the part of the pastor in securing enough stones to finish the building.

The pastor is Rev. George W. Tryon. It was through his own personal sacrifice that the church was made possible and a building erected large enough to accommodate the greatly increasing number of members. With hip boots and pick and shovel the hustling pastor, in water to his knees, helped dig the old grindstones which had been buried for several years under great piles of dirt.

The stones, which were used for the grinding of saws, were thrown to one side after they no longer were of use in the business to lie in a waste pile until Mr. Tryon, seeing that the available stones would not complete the structure, proceeded to locate the buried stones and thereby finished his church.

It required approximately 2,500 grindstones to complete the edifice, and all the hauling and the setting of the stones was done under the direct supervision of the pastor, who attended to the operation every day in order that the best materials would be placed in the structure.

## Arguedo's Big Bale of Money (Mex.) Is Found

NEW YORK.—When Deputy Sheriff Sinnott opened the safety deposit compartment in the Woolworth building leased by former Gov. Abel O. Arguedo of Yucatan, a bale of Mexican paper money fell out. It was so large the deputy sheriff was unable to lift it. The deputy sheriff was armed with an order to search the compartment for enough cash to satisfy a judgment for \$475,000, American money, obtained against Arguedo by the Yucatan government, it being alleged that when Arguedo fled from the country several months ago he took the war chest with him.

Sinnott expected to find much gold, as it had been said the former governor had changed much paper into metal when he reached Havana, but the deputy found only bills, tied in small packages, which were roped together in a big bale.

The bills had been issued by various banks and by the government. Some were good, others nearly worthless. When the bundle had been hoisted to a table, an expert on Mexican money was called in and three hours were devoted to counting the bills and establishing their worth. The expert placed the total value at \$80,000 to \$90,000. In Mexican it would figure up to about \$500,000, he said.

A steamship which recently made the port of San Francisco reports having sailed in a sea of pumice, near Sydney, New South Wales, about January 6. Apparently the material had been cast up by a submarine volcanic outbreak, and chunks ranging in size from that of a marble to a plug hat were thrown on deck by the waves. The vessel was several hours in passing through the affected region.

In Japan devilfish weighing up to 200 pounds are sometimes caught. These fish are amphibious; they are often seen wabbling on their tentacles like spiders, in search of patches of sweet potatoes. The natives kill them with clubs. In the water they are caught in jars lowered to the bottom, which the octopus enters, thinking them a good retreat from which to catch his food.

In recent years valuable coal deposits have been discovered in Spitzbergen. The extent of the deposits appears to be enormous. It is estimated after careful examination that two strata in the neighborhood of the fjords between Advent bay and Green harbor contain more than a million tons of coal. There appears to be also a third stratum in the same neighborhood.

The most beautiful women in the world are said to be the Indian women of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, which lies just north of Yucatan in Mexico. They add to their picturesque attractiveness by wearing whatever fortune they may possess in the form of gold coins strung about the arms and neck.

Arizona's national forest reserve is now traversed by an excellent automobile road, the route following a famous Apache trail and passing the huge Roosevelt dam, the home of ancient cliff dwellers and others of the state's most interesting scenic and historic spots.

## EAGLETS.

H. Schmidt of 537 Center street has a host of friends who would back him for public office.

Stillman B. Jamieson is one of the coming men in the Republican party. He is honest and able.

Dr. George Sullivan always made a good record in public life.

Frank J. Hogan, the popular and well-known lawyer, would make a fine Municipal Judge.

Nelson N. Lampert is the strongest Republican candidate named for State Treasurer.

Frank Weeger, the well known brewer and business man, is talked of for State Auditor and State Treasurer. He would fill either position well.

Judge Edward T. Glennon, the well known railroad lawyer, is respected by bench, bar and public.

W. L. Bodine, the efficient chief of the bureau of compulsory education, has made a nation wide name for his department.

Judge William E. Dever is making a good record in the Superior Court.

William F. Quinnan, "the father of Edgewater," has a host of friends all over Chicago.

Judge Charles A. McDonald is making a splendid record on the Superior Court bench. He is a conscientious and fair-minded judge.

Tony Schroeder of North Halsted and Roscoe streets is not only one of the solid men of Lake View but he is a political leader who numbers his friends by the thousands.

John Z. Vogelsang has done much to make the restaurant the attractive feature of Chicago life that it is today.

C. A. Smith, the veteran pianomaker, is respected by all who know him.

Joseph A. O'Donnell, former legislator and park commissioner, is one of the most popular members of the Chicago bar.

Jeremiah B. O'Donnell, the able lawyer, has thousands of admirers who want to see him on the judicial bench.

Harry W. Cooper reports a big demand for Batavia tires. They are more popular than ever.

Harry E. Kellogg, the popular proprietor of the Blue Ribbon Laundry at 513 North Clark street, is building up a fine business.

Judge John R. Lavery is daily adding to his popularity in Chicago by his splendid record on the Municipal Court bench.

Samuel W. Jackson, the well known lawyer, who was one of the best Presidents the Law Institute ever had, is frequently mentioned for judge.

George W. Paulin, the great furrier, has made a business record for honesty and integrity that wins for him hosts of friends.

Popular Jack Henderson would make a good member of the State Board of Equalization.

Dow B. Lewis would make a good County Commissioner.

Judge Thomas F. Scully has made a splendid record in the County Court. The people have confidence in him and their confidence has never been misplaced, either when the judge was on the Municipal bench or in his present responsible position.

President Thomas A. Smyth, of the Sanitary District, has increased the efficiency of the service one hundred per cent since he took office.

One of the very best Aldermen in the City Council, is Edward F. Cullerton. He has been longest in the public service of any member of the City Council and his usefulness to the people has been demonstrated over and over again.

There are no more criminals. Every cold-blooded murderer and thief is a "moron" now days according to the pestiferous reformers who are running things in Chicago. A woman is slain in her kitchen. The murderer is caught. "Don't hang him, he's a 'moron' shout the reformers," and he is not hanged. A mother and her babe are killed by a brute. "He is a moron" declare the reformers. It is bad enough for the reformers to be stealing the taxpayers' money for a hundred alleged "reforms," but when they keep on breeding murderers, they deserve the rope themselves.

The theatrical profession, men and women, the legal profession, leading business men and all other callings praise the Morrison photograph studio. Clara Louise Hagins, secretary of the studio, is always there to see that ladies receive every attention.

Adam Wolf is one of the most popular men in Chicago. You can't beat him.

Hempstead Washburne, the popular former mayor, is active in many branches of public life.

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